



WHEREAS, in 2019, 4,028 Ohioans died from unintentional drug overdoses, and in 2020, Ohio was not immune to the national trend of an increase in those deaths; and

WHEREAS, preliminary data from the Ohio Department of Health shows unintentional drug overdose deaths have surpassed 2019 rates – and are now the highest on record; and

WHEREAS, moments after taking the oath of office, Governor Mike DeWine signed an executive order creating the RecoveryOhio initiative to ensure that all state agencies act aggressively to address the crisis of substance use disorder and to invest in the health and well-being of Ohio's citizens; and

WHEREAS, since then, RecoveryOhio has been working hard to create a system to help make treatment available to Ohioans in need, provide support services for those in recovery and their families, offer direction for the state's prevention and education efforts, and partner with local law enforcement to provide resources to fight illicit drugs at the source; and

WHEREAS, Ohioans can help prevent overdose deaths by being aware of the signs and knowing how to respond; and

WHEREAS, Governor Mike DeWine signed Senate Bill 30 on June 8, 2021, designating Ohio Overdose Awareness Day on August 31 each year to remember people lost to overdose and to encourage action to prevent those deaths; and

WHEREAS, Ohio Overdose Awareness Day is an opportunity for all Ohioans to stand beside those who have lost loved ones to an overdose and those who have a substance use disorder and are working toward recovery; and

NOW, THEREFORE, We, Mike DeWine and Jon Husted, Governor and Lieutenant Governor of the State of Ohio, do hereby recognize

OHIO OVERDOSE AWARENESS DAY

on this 31st day of August 2021.

Mike DeWine
Governor



Jon Husted
Lieutenant Governor